

APR 11 2007

Attorney Docket No. 2004_0248
Serial No. 10/779,718
April 11, 2007REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Applicants are grateful for the telephone interviews with the Examiner on March 27 and 29, 2007, during which proposed amendments to the claims were discussed. Claim 20 has been amended along the lines discussed and agreed to during the interview for the sole purpose of simplifying the claim language. It is again noted that the amended claim language is equivalent to the allowed language in claims 1-4 and US 6,746,849 (i.e., Parent Application Serial No. 09/937,296). Support for the amendment can be found in original claims 2-6 and 9-10 and throughout the disclosure. No new matter has been added.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and early notice to that effect is hereby requested.

If the Examiner has any comments or proposals for expediting prosecution, please contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

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